

Appl. No. 10/604,722
Amdt. dated December 09, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 22, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Objection to claim 2:

Claim 2 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

Response:

Claim 2 has been cancelled, and is no longer in need of consideration.

2. Rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 17, 18, 20, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 17, 18, 20, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis et al (US 2002/0064046) in view of Heitz et al (US 6,056,405).

Response:

The applicant would like to point out how independent claim 1 is patentable over the combination of Davis and Heitz.

Claim 1 recites that the reflective housing is substantially parabolic shaped. Because of the parabolic shape of the parabolic reflective housing, light is reflected in a parallel path. As illustrated in Fig.5 and paragraph 0030 of the instant application, the reflective housing 54 is parabolic for making light emitted by light source 52 propagate substantially in parallel away from the reflective housing 54.

On the other hand, Davis only teaches that the reflective housing 102 has the shape of an ellipse (paragraphs 0020, 0029), and that an elliptical shape is preferred. Davis does not teach or suggest that the reflective housing 102 has a parabolic shape

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or that the optical path of reflected light is a parallel route. Instead, Davis teaches in paragraph 0038 that the reflected light should be focused on a color wheel 704, which provides light beams to an integrator rod 706. Thus, Davis would not choose a reflector with a parabolic shape for this purpose. This is because a parabolic reflector would tend to make light straight or parallel rather than converge it onto the color wheel 704. That is, one of ordinary skill in the art would not chose a reflector having a parabolic shape since it would substantially reduce the light reaching the color wheel 704.

Heitz teaches in Fig.4 that a lamp module 54 is used to emit light into a light-path aperture 100. Although Heitz teaches in col.5 line 64 that the reflector 106 of the lamp module 54 can be elliptical, parabolic, or spherical in shape, Heitz also teaches that the reflector 106 is preferably elliptical. The elliptical shape allows the reflector 106 to reflect light towards a point rather than diffuse light as a spherical or parabolic reflector would do. Therefore, since Heitz is trying to emit light into the light-path aperture 100 and Davis is trying to focus light on the color wheel 704, neither Heitz nor Davis would have sufficient motivation for selecting a parabolic reflector. A parabolic reflector would not focus the light on the intended target, and instead would make light parallel, thereby enabling less light to reach the intended target. For these reasons, one skilled in the art would not find it obvious to incorporate a parabolic reflector into the image projection system taught by Davis since it would make the image projection system less effective.

For the reasons stated above, claim 1 is patentably distinguished from the combination of Davis and Heitz. Moreover, claims 2, 4, 6, 7, 17, 18, 20, and 21 are all dependent on claim 1, and should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 17, 18, 20, and 21 is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/604,722
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3. Rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

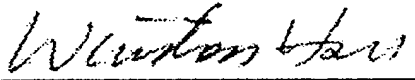
Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis et al. in view of Heitz et al., and further in view of Lemke (US 5,615,938).

Response:

Claim 5 is dependent on claim 1, and should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed.
Reconsideration of claim 5 is respectfully requested.

In view of the above arguments in favor of patentability, the applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Sincerely yours,



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Note: Please leave a message in my voice mail if you need to talk to me. (The time in D.C. is 13 hours behind the Taiwan time, i.e. 9 AM in D.C. = 10 PM in Taiwan.)